

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/655,131

Applicant(s)

KEMP ET AL.

Examiner

JOHN PAK

Art Unit

1616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

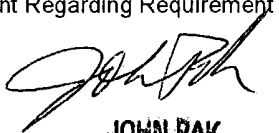
1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's arguments, declaration and terminal disclaimer of 7/26/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13 [no renumbering necessary].
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


JOHN PAK
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1000

The terminal disclaimer filed on 7/26/2004 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of U.S. Patent No. 6,572,908 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Chwang on 10/15/2004.

Cancel the non-elected claims 14-58.

Rewrite claims 1 and 2 as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) An acidic composition having an acidic pH value and an acid normality value, the acidic composition comprising:

a monovalent or polyvalent cation of a metal;

an organic acid generated from a salt of the organic acid; and

an anion of a strong oxyacid,

wherein the acidic composition is less corrosive to a ferrous metal than is a solution of a mineral acid having the same acidic pH value as that of the acidic composition, and

Art Unit: 1616

wherein the acidic composition is more biocidal than a mixture of the organic acid and a metal salt of the organic acid which mixture having the same acid normality value as that of the acidic composition.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) The acidic composition of claim 1, wherein the monovalent cation comprises an ion of Group IA element, but not hydrogen.

Amend claim 13 as follows.

Claim 13, line 7: delete "pepicolic" and insert --- pipecolic --- .

The following claim interpretation is noted for the record. The claim feature, "an organic acid generated from a salt of the organic acid" means that the invention "acidic composition" generated the organic acid in situ from a salt of the organic acid. As a consequence of equilibrium between the acid and the salt, the acidic composition necessarily contains the salt as well as the acid. On 10/15/2004, applicant's attorney, Mr. Chwang, agreed that this is the correct interpretation of the claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to JOHN PAK whose telephone number is **(571)272-0620**. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's SPE, Gary Kunz, can be reached on **(571)272-0887**.

Application/Control Number: 09/655,131

Page 4

Art Unit: 1616

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571)272-1600.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Pak", is positioned above the printed name and title.

JOHN PAK
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1600